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LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward, enclosed herewith, the statement issued on 3 June 1999 by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, relative to initiatives of some governmental and non-governmental organizations to airdrop humanitarian aid to Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-16777 (E) 070699

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Annex

Statement issued at Belgrade on 3 June 1999
by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is categorically opposed to initiatives by some foreign governmental and non-governmental organizations to airdrop humanitarian relief to the inhabitants of Kosovo and Metohija. This form of providing aid is fraught with great risks and could lead to undesired consequences.

There is no need for this form of relief considering that there exist no obstacles to sending humanitarian dispatches over customary, safer land routes to all parts of the country and to distribute them to those who are most in need.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is open to accepting humanitarian aid from all countries of the world. However, it would have to be dispatched on the basis of cooperation with competent Yugoslav organs and institutions, with their full agreement and insight.